



ARTS ACTION WEEK

March 20-24 we participated in Zoom meetings with ten Legislators in our 9-county area. Many arts constituents from the region took part in the meetings coordinated by MN Citizens for the Arts.

Our legislator meetings were with 15B Rep. Paul Torkelson, 17 Sen. Glenn Gruenhagen, 17A Rep. Dawn Gillman, 18 Sen. Nick Frentz, 18B Rep. Luke Frederick, 19 Sen. John Jasinski, 22 Sen. Rich Draheim, 22A Rep. Bjorn Olson, 23 Sen. Gene Dornink, and 23A Rep. Peggy Bennett.

Over 400 Arts advocates from across Minnesota participated and shared their stories. Each person shared the importance of the arts to them personally, to their organization and their community. This discussion helped our Representatives and Senators understand that State funding for the Arts is critical and reaches every district in the region. A list of grantees from Prairie Lakes for the last year was provided to the Legislators.

The messages of the day were presented to each legislator.

1. Support the CREATE Jobs bill that will help arts and culture organizations rehire employees and get Minnesotans back to work. (HF 2844/SF 2867)
2. Support the Governor's recommendation of 47% from

the Legacy Arts and Culture Section to the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council System.

We are thankful that for many years our legislators have understood the value of the Arts and many noted they were familiar with arts activities in their district. Several mentioned that they receive thank you notes from students who received youth scholarships, as well as many arts organizations, schools, and community groups that receive arts grants.



(Above) Zoom Meeting with **Representative Paul Torkelson**. Top Row: Nicole DeBoer, Executive Director, Southwest MN Arts Council and Cindy Lewer, PLRAC; Middle Row: Artist Pegeen Rozeske and Laurel Stinson, Executive Director, the Grand Center for Arts and Culture. Bottom Row: Rep. Torkelson and MCA Staff.

(Left) Zoom Meeting with **Sen. Rich Draheim**. Top Row: Pam Trumbull and Cindy Lewer with PLRAC; and Blake Potthoff, Executive Director, Fairmont Opera House; Bottom Row: MCA Member Dan Zielske and Senator Draheim.



ARTS ACTION WEEK

The energy at In-Person Rally at the Minnesota State Capitol on March 21st was palpable and fueled advocates and legislators. The Rally set the tone for the week as meetings outlined the importance of arts, culture, entertainment, history, and humanities make Minnesota a great place to live, work, and visit.



Sarah Fossen, Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, speaking at the rally.



Cindy Lewer, PLRAC and Blake Potthoff, Executive Director of the Fairmont Opera House, attended the rally at the Minnesota State Capitol.



Sen. John Jasinski, District 19, speaking at the rally.

We Need Your Help!

Even if you were not able to participate in Arts Action Week **you can still contact your legislator** and ask them to continue supporting the arts and to support the CREATE Jobs bill that will help arts and culture organizations rehire employees and get Minnesotans back to work. (HF 2844/SF 2867).

Visit the MCA Website to get started!

<https://artsmn.org/act/contact-your-legislator/>

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded

A total of \$156,400 was awarded to 25 Area Organizations

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council is pleased to announce that **Arts and Cultural Heritage grants of \$156,400 were awarded to twenty-five arts organizations and schools in the region on February 23, 2023.** The grantees are listed alphabetically with a brief description of their artistic activities and events.

The grants are for arts activities in all artistic disciplines. A variety of activities including instrumental and vocal music concerts; theater, dance, and figure skating performances; exhibitions; festivals; public art; artist residencies; and classes for youth and adults are being funded. This fund was created by the people of Minnesota to support the arts and preserve our heritage. The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, passed by the voters in Nov. 2008, created new resources for land conservation, water conservation, parks and the Arts. The next ACH Grant deadline is August 1, 2023. Organizations can apply once per year for this grant.

4-Unity, Cornstalk Festival, Dunnell - \$5,000. They will host the Cornstalk Festival June 23-25, 2023. The music festival will include multiple performances and children's theater activities. Funds will be used for artist fees.

Carnegie Art Center, Mankato - \$7,000. They will host many gallery exhibits in 2023 including a juried exhibition for regional artists to participate in. Funds will be used for the juror fee and other expenses for the juried exhibit, publicity, salaries, and a new point of sale system.

City Center Partnership, Mankato - \$7,000. They will sponsor the CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour consisting of 32 juried outdoor sculptures in downtown Mankato and North Mankato, May 2023 to April 2024. Funds will be used to pay stipends to seven artists.

City of New Prague - \$7,000. They will maintain, preserve, rebuild, and relocate an existing public art sculpture, Towering to Our Future, to outside the New Prague Memorial Library. The official unveiling of the sculpture will be during New Prague's Dozinky Festival, Sept. 15-16, 2023. Funds will be used for artists fees and supplies, a sign for the sculpture, salaries, and equipment.

City of Waldorf - \$3,000. They will hire artist Nell Tryst to create a painted mural in downtown Waldorf to be the backdrop for the future Waldorf Memorial Veteran's Park. There will be a public dedication ceremony during Waldorf Days, August 26, 2023. Funds will be used for artists fees.

Dance Conservatory of Southern Minnesota - \$7,000. They will provide summer 2023 dance programs including modern/contemporary, pre-pointe, ballet, boys

hip hop, boys tap/jazz, beach party, themed camps, improv, and technique classes. They will also offer free summer camps for children to try dance. Funds will be used for studio rent during the summer months.

Gaylord Chamber of Commerce - \$5,000. They will sponsor "Music under the Oaks" with weekly concerts in downtown Gaylord, June through August 2023. Funds will be used artist fees.

Govenaires Performing Arts Association - \$7,000. The Govenaires Drum & Bugle Corps, and the Govenaires Parade & Concert Corps will perform in many parades, concerts, and field show performances between March and September 2023. Funds will be used for the design and instructional staff and for transportation costs.

Green Isle Community School - \$5,000. They will sponsor an Artist in Residency where students interview an elder from the community and work with local artists to create a play and music based on the elder's life. A public performance of the work will be held May 25, 2023. Funds will be used for artist fees, costumes and sets, publicity, and sound equipment rental fees.

Imagine Martin, Fairmont - \$7,000. They will sponsor phase two of the public art project "Going Hog Wild in Martin County, MN". Thirty-six additional concrete hog statues will be placed around Martin County and will be painted by local and regional artists. Funds will be used for artist stipends to paint the statues.

Madelia Area Chamber of Commerce - \$5,000. They will sponsor the annual Watona Park Blues Festival during Madelia Park Days; July 8, 2023, featuring musicians from Minnesota including Billy and the Bangers, Bambi Alexandria, Everett Smithson Band,

(Arts and Cultural Heritage continued on page 4)



These activities are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded

(Arts and Cultural Heritage continued from page 3)

Inside Straight Band, and Lemont Cranston Blues Band. Funds will be used for artist fees and publicity.

Mankato Area Community Band - \$4,400. They will present free outdoor concerts in the summer of 2023. Five concerts will be at Sibley Park, Mankato in June and July; and one patriotic concert will be at Lincoln Park, Mankato on June 27. Funds will be used for the conductor and staff fees, musician stipends and publicity.

Mankato Area Public Schools - StoryArk - \$5,000. They will partner with StoryArk to host a Storytelling Camp July 10-14, 2023 in Mankato. High school students from Mankato Area Public Schools, St. Peter, and Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton school districts will participate to create original podcasts, short films, literary and visual arts. Funds will be used for artist fees and staff to implement the camp and supplies.

Mankato Ballet Company - \$7,000. They will create and present a full, original ballet production titled “Little Mermaid” in May 2023 by all students, held at the St. Peter High School’s Performing Arts Center. Funds will be used for artist fees to create an original backdrop, costumes, sets, theater rental, and publicity.

Mankato Figure Skating Club - \$7,000. They will present their annual ice shows, “Frozen Princess On Ice” in April of 2023 at All Seasons Arena in Mankato. Funds will be used for coaches’ stipends, ice time for rehearsals and performances, and storage.

Mankato School of Music - \$7,000. They will provide five programs for their students in 2023 including group classes for string and band students at Mankato East and West High Schools; adult string group instruction classes; Fiddlesticks Classes to teach Celtic, old-time, and bluegrass fiddling; a preschool and school age Music Therapy Class; and an older adult Music Therapy Class at the VINE Community Center. Funds will be used for artist fees, salaries, and publicity.

Mankato Symphony Orchestra - \$7,000. They will present their season premiere Symphonic Series Concert, “Triumph” on September 30, 2023, at the St. Peter High School’s Performing Arts Center as part of their 2023/24 season. Funds will be used for artist and conductor stipends.

Minnesota Original Music Festival - \$7,000. They will present free concerts and educational workshops hosted by Minnesota artists in St. Peter, July 19-23, 2023. Events will include the Band Challenge, singer/songwriter showcases, an open mic event, and music jams. Workshops will be held by professional musicians with

topics including music composition, songwriting, improvisation, the use of technology, and accessing resources available to Minnesota artists. Funds will be used for artist fees and travel.

Minnesota “Over-60” Band - \$7,000. They will perform in many parades and concerts in Minnesota during the summer of 2023. Funds will be used for artist travel and stipends, salaries, music, rental fees, and publicity.

Minnesota State Univ., Mankato, Music Performance Series - \$7,000. They will sponsor music performances by Minnesota artists as part of their 2023 Performance Series, including Sarah Morris and the Sometimes Guys, Molly Maher, Andrea Lyn, The Cactus Blossoms, Mike Munson, and Ron Arsenault and Dave Pengra. They will also include outreach activities for the community. Funds will be used for artist fees, technician fees, and publicity.

New Ulm Suzuki School of Music - \$7,000. They will sponsor their annual Summer Pops Camp in June and conduct their season of rehearsals and concerts in 2023. Funds will be used for the Pops Camp clinician, facility rent, and salaries.

Old Town Mankato Day of the Dead Festival - \$7,000. They will host the A Día De Los Muertos festival outdoors on North Riverfront Drive in Mankato, October 28, 2023. There will be traditional Latino Day of the Dead activities, a vendor market, and ethnic dance and music performances. Funds will be used for artist fees.

Rock Bend Folk Festival - \$5,000. They will sponsor the 32nd annual two-day festival featuring local and regional Minnesota folk musicians on two stages and local artists displaying their work at Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter; September 9-10, 2023. Funds will be used for artist fees, artist travel & equipment rental fees.

T-Bird Community Arts, Gibbon - \$7,000. They will sponsor an Art Camp for grades 3-8, including painting and set design, vocal performance, acting, dance/choreography, tech booth, and costume design, June 12-23, 2023, and a summer musical performance of “Beauty and the Beast”, August 3-6, 2023. Funds will be used for music and script rights, sets and props, costumes, art camp supplies, and salaries.

The Grand Center for Arts and Culture - \$7,000. They will continue their 2023 performing arts series which features many Minnesota artists presenting a variety of music genres each weekend, and display art exhibitions in their 4 Pillars Gallery. Funds will be used for artist fees, publicity, and salaries.

\$148,000 in Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded in Fall 2022

A total of 22 arts organizations, community groups and schools were awarded Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) grants, totaling \$148,000 in fall 2022 by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. The organizations are listed alphabetically.

The grants are for arts activities in all artistic disciplines. A variety of activities including instrumental and vocal music concerts, theater and dance performances, exhibitions, festivals, and classes for youth and adults are being funded. This fund was created by the people of Minnesota to support the arts and preserve our heritage. The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, passed by the voters in Nov. 2008, created new resources for land conservation, water conservation, parks and the Arts. The next ACH Grant deadline is February 1, 2023. Organizations can apply once per year for this grant.

Arlington Chamber of Commerce, ArliDazzle - \$5,000.

Arts Center of Saint Peter - \$7,000.

Blue Earth Valley Concert Association - \$7,000.

DalekoArts, New Prague - \$7,000.

Davori Productions, Mankato Playhouse - \$7,000.

Fairmont Opera House - \$7,000.

La Grande Bande, Gaylord - \$7,000.

Mankato/North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer's - \$7,000.

Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra - \$7,000.

Mankato Children's Chorus - \$5,000.

Mankato Makerspace - \$7,000.

Martin Co. Preservation, Assoc. (Red Rock Center for the Arts) - \$7,000.

Merely Players Community Theatre - \$7,000.

Minnesota New Country School - \$5,000.

Minnesota Valley Chorale - \$7,000.

Musicorum, Mankato - \$7,000.

New Ulm Figure Skating Club - \$7,000.

Project G.E.M. - \$7,000.

ProMusica Minnesota - \$7,000.

South Central Service Cooperative - \$7,000.

State Street Theater Company, New Ulm - \$7,000.

Waseca Arts Council - \$7,000.



FY 2023 SMALL ARTS PROJECT and SCHOOL GRANTS

The Small Arts Project Grant is available to non-profit arts organizations and community groups sponsoring arts activities for their community. School Arts Project Grants are for public or private non-parochial schools K-12 for artist residencies, arts presentations, & arts related field trips. There is an application deadline the 1st of each month.

BLUE EARTH COUNTY

Betsy-Tacy Society, mural - \$2,500
Central High School & Freedom (Sober) School - \$2,500
Deep Valley Book Festival, artist fees - \$2,500
GSR Fine Art Festival, artist stipends - \$2,500
Lake Crystal Community Band, performances - \$2,035
Minnesota River Bend Brass Choir, concerts - \$2,500
Minnesota State Univ., Mankato, chapbook - \$2,496
Open Arts Minnesota, theater performance - \$2,500
St. Clair Public School, music artist residency - \$2,500
Southern Minnesota Real Big Band, concerts - \$2,500

BROWN COUNTY

Hermann Monument Society, German festival - \$2,000
Martin Luther College Wind Symphony, workshop - \$2,500
Sleepy Eye High School, field trip - \$2,140

FARIBAULT COUNTY

Blue Earth Area High School, arts workshops - \$2,500

LE SUEUR COUNTY

Le Sueur County Fair, music performances - \$1,700
New Prague Area Arts Council, concert series - \$2,500
Park Elementary School, dance performance - \$1,250

MARTIN COUNTY

Martin County Historical Society, mural - \$2,310

NICOLLET COUNTY

Minnesota Shorts Play Festival, performances - \$2,500
Saint Peter Community Ed., summer art classes - \$4,000
True Essentials Consulting, Juneteenth event - \$4,000

SIBLEY COUNTY

City of Green Isle, town celebration music - \$1,300
City of Winthrop, concert series - \$2,000
Christmas in the Country, festival - \$1,500
Henderson Lions Club, concert series - \$2,500
Henderson Sauerkraut Days, performances - \$2,500
Ney Environmental Education Foundation, music - \$975
Sibley County Fair, performances - \$2,500

WASECA COUNTY

American Indian Service Learning Project, classes - \$1,500
Summerburst Concert Series, music - \$4,000
Waseca Latino Cultural Celebration, music - \$1,050
Waseca Marching Classic, band clinics - \$2,070

Five Small Arts Project Grants Awarded in March

Our Small Arts Project and School Arts Project Grant program funds non-profit arts organizations, community groups, public organizations, or schools producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community or students. We encourage applications for artistic performances or the sponsorship of quality arts activities in the 9-county region. This may include dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art, etc.

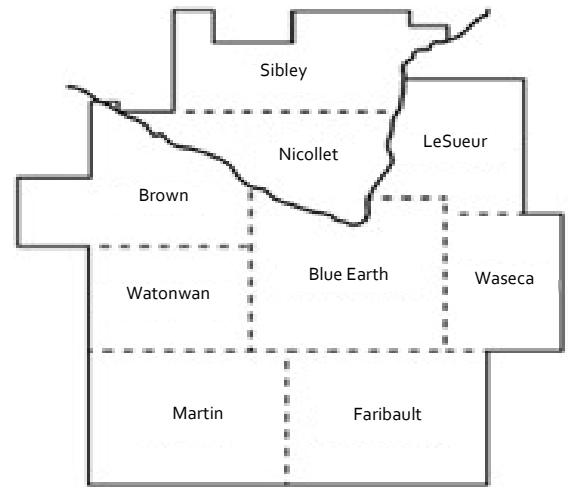
New Prague Area Arts Council - \$2,500. They will host the “Music at the Broz” series of seven free outdoor summers concerts from June 22-August 3, 2023. Funds will be used for stage rental, publicity, and a children’s art program.

Ney Environmental Education Foundation - \$975. They will host the Teddy Bear Band to perform at the “Tree Jamboree” event at the Ney Nature Center in Henderson, April 22, 2023. Funds will be used for artist fees.

Saint Peter Community and Family Education - \$4,000. They will continue the sPARK Creativity: Mobile Art Studio to bring free art opportunities to BIPOC and economically disadvantaged children in grades K-6 in summer 2023. Outdoor sites have been chosen within walking distance of selected neighborhoods. Local artist, April Malphurs, will teach the classes along with two local BIPOC guest artists. Funds will be used for artist fees, salaries, and supplies.

Sibley County Fair - \$2,500. They will sponsor a variety of events including polka and bluegrass music, Yvonne Cory as the Apron Lady, and more during the fair, August 2-6, 2023.

True Essentials Consulting - \$4,000. They will sponsor the 2nd Annual Minnesota Statewide Juneteenth Celebration, June 17 & 19, 2023 in St. Peter. Activities will include live music, an art exhibit by a black artist, and a play performance of “Kumbaya: The Juneteenth Story”. Funds will be used for artist fees and salaries.



FY 2023 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

Deadlines are: August 1 and February 1

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council will fund projects from non-profit tax-exempt 501c3 arts organizations or those using a fiscal sponsor that are producing or sponsoring an arts activity in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art. This includes arts and music festivals, community bands and choirs, theatre events, dance activities, literary readings, public art, visual arts exhibitions and classes, etc. **No specific cash match is required.**

ACH Arts Project Grant. Arts Programming and Access – maximum request \$7,000.

Funds may be used for Arts programming that is in-person or virtual. Expenses may include artist fees, artist travel, salaries, equipment, technology, training, promotion, monthly rent (lease payments) and utilities.

ACH Arts & Music Festivals Grant. Maximum request \$5,000. For non-profit tax-exempt 501c3 arts organizations that are sponsoring arts/music festivals and activities that represent diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions.

ACH Education Grant. Maximum request \$5,000. For arts education programs by non-profit community groups and schools. This may include arts classes, author reading, artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops, or arts related field trips for schools.

ACH Youth Scholarship. Youth Scholarship for Students (grades 7-12) – \$300, and (grades 3-6) - \$200. Students have the opportunity to study their chosen art with a practicing professional artist by taking lessons over a period of months. This is for all Art disciplines. Deadline for grades 7-12 is October 1; and grades 3-6 is November 1.



The applicant or organization must have an address and provide arts programming within the Prairie Lakes region; the counties are: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, or Watonwan County.

Small Arts Project Grant

Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. The grant may be up to \$2,500. BIPOC projects can apply for up to \$4,000. Fundable activities include: arts and music festivals, community bands and choirs, theatre events, dance activities, literary readings, public art, visual arts exhibitions and classes, etc. **Deadline: July 1, and the 1st of each month until April.**

School Arts Project Grant

Grants are for **schools K-12 public and private.** Grants up to \$2,500 are available to fund Artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops or arts related field trips. **Deadline: July 1, and the 1st of each month until April.**

Artist Development Grant \$2,000

Artist Grants are for a specific project that contributes directly to their artistic growth and professional development in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art. Funds may be used for supplies, matting and framing, equipment, attending a workshop, studio time, studying with a mentor, artist time, and/or living expenses.

Deadline: September 1

Earliest start date: October 1

FY 2023 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Organizational Grants - Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, schools, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. Fundable projects may include: community choirs & bands, dance activities, literary readings, music presentations, theatre productions, visual arts classes and exhibitions, folk and traditional art, etc. Maximums for the Arts and Cultural Heritage grants vary, please check guidelines for details.

Small Arts Project Grant maximum is \$2,500 and BIPOC cultural arts project may request up to \$4,000. PLRAC is interested in receiving new applications for BIPOC cultural activities that engage the public.

Artist Grants - Are for specific projects that will advance your work and arts career.

Applications are available online at www.plrac.org.

Small Arts Project - \$2,500 and BIPOC Projects - \$4,000

1st of the Month Deadline
July 1, 2022 to April 1, 2023

School Arts Project - \$2,500

1st of the Month Deadline
July 1, 2022 to April 1, 2023

A tutorial that explains the
online process is on our
website.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

Aug. 1 and
Feb. 1 Deadline

Arts Project Grant - \$7,000

Arts Festivals Grant - \$5,000

Arts Education Grant - \$5,000

Artist Development Grant - \$2,000

Sept. 1, 2022 Deadline

Youth Scholarship Grades 7-12 - \$300

October 1 Deadline

Youth Scholarship Grades 3-6 - \$200

November 1 Deadline

If any of the information in the grant guidelines is unclear, contact the Prairie Lakes office at (800) 298-1254, (507) 833-8721 or plrac@hickorytech.net.

Upon request, Prairie Lakes grant application materials will be made available in an alternate format such as large print, computer flash drive, or on audiotape. Please call the Prairie Lakes office in Waseca at 1-800-298-1254. For TTY, contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529.



Prairie Lakes has two Board Positions Open, Apply Now

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has two positions open on the Board for representatives from the **City of Fairmont and Sibley County**.

The deadline for submitting an application is May 1st. Interested persons should contact Prairie Lakes to find out more about our board at plrac@hickorytech.net. **You will find a Board Application and Board Member Duties (PDF) on our website, www.plrac.org.** Click on About Us, then Board Meetings and Application.

This is a great opportunity to understand the workings of the granting process, to be more involved with the arts and artists of our region, and to enjoy camaraderie with others who appreciate the arts. The Council seeks to appoint people who represent a cross-section of art forms as well as various arts perspectives: Artists, teachers, and representatives of arts organizations. Since a primary function of the Council is to serve as a panel for arts project applications, members are chosen for their knowledge, expertise, and involvement in the arts in the areas of dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art.

Board members can anticipate that their tasks will include reading and evaluating about 100 applications per year from artists, art organizations, community groups and schools.



Volunteer board members serve a three year term. Monthly evening meetings are typically held the fourth Thursday of the month in Mankato, at Pioneer Bank. The monthly meetings will be conducted as in-person meetings, with the option to join virtually. Attendance at several PLRAC funded arts events per year is required and board members are reimbursed for their mileage to meetings and arts events.

Prairie Lakes Board of Directors

Blue Earth County	Tom David Barna
Brown County	Beth Steffl
Faribault County.....	Julie Forderer
LeSueur County	Larry Pint
Martin County.....	Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerenke
Nicollet County.....	Mark Wamma
Sibley County	Open
Waseca County.....	Karen Krause
Watonswan County	Sandy Sunde
City of Fairmont.....	Open
City of Mankato	Bethany Truman
City of New Ulm	Carolyn Borgen
City of North Mankato	Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter	April Malphurs
At Large	Randy Mediger

Staff

Program Manager.....	Cindy Lewer
Program Assistant.....	Pam Trumbull



FY 2023 Prairie Lakes Board of Directors and Staff

Front Row (L to R): Julie Forderer; Beth Steffl; Sandy Sunde; April Malphurs; and Cindy Lewer, Program Manager.
Back Row: Larry Pint; Pam Trumbull, Program Assistant; Tom David Barna; Karen Krause; Mark Wamma; and Kristi Gaalswyk-Pomerenke. Not pictured: Carolyn Borgen; Randy Mediger; Dana Sikkila; and Bethany Truman.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

April 1 Two Rivers Community Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m. Held at Martin Luther College Auditorium, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (612) 251-8492.

***April 1-2** Minnesota Valley Chorale will present their spring concert, "Luminous Night". April 1 at 7 p.m. and April 2 at 3 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. Tickets \$10, available online or at the door. (612) 251-8492 or www.minnesotavalleychorale.com.



April 1-5 "Our Story: The Road Less Traveled", Lance and Annette Hartzell Retrospective Exhibit. Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center Gallery, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 1-7 Wendi and Matt Ringhofer's Nature Art Exhibit, featuring Lake Superior agates. Held in the Smallest Museum in Minnesota display case, outside The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 1-15 Dana Sikkila's "The Moving Light" Exhibit of new work. Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. www.the410project.com.



April 1-23 "Improvvised Structures" Exhibit of recent sculptural works by Nicolas Darcourt and Elizabeth Catlett. Held at the Hillstrom Museum of Art, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free & open to the public. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays and 1-5 p.m. weekends. www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom or (507) 933-7200.

***April 1-29** Photographic Journeys Exhibit by the late Jonathan Zierdt. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Gallery hours: Wed.-Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sun. 1-5 p.m. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

***April 1-22** The 2022 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. www.cityartmankato.com or (507) 388-1062.

April 1-May 13 Tri-City United Schools Student Art Exhibit. April 1-15 for grades 5-8, and April 20-May 13 for grades 9-12. Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 First St. N. Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

***April 1-28** Minnesota State University, Mankato's Installation Art Exhibit. Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Gallery hours: Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 2 Minnesota River Valley Wind Ensemble "Celebrate!" Concert, with music from River Dance and Harry Potter, 3 p.m., free admission. Held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. "Minnesota River Valley Wind Ensemble" on Facebook.

April 2 Martin Luther College Student Showcase Concert, 3 p.m. Adults \$10 and students \$5. Held at The Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 3-14 Senior Exhibition 1. (Reception, April 12, 7-9 p.m.) Held at Conkling Gallery, Dept. of Art, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/art/galleries/current-season/>.

April 4 Virtual author event with Kate Beaton. She will discuss her latest graphic novel, "Hark! A Vagrant! and Ducks: Two Years in the Oil Sands", 6 p.m. Contact the library to register and to receive the link. Sponsored by the Blue Earth County Library. www.beclibrary.org or (507) 304-4001.

***April 4-28** Project GEM's Annual Creative Youth Show, showcasing student artwork from the area in several locations: St. Peter Community Recreation Center and Public Library, 600 S. 5th St. and St. Clair City Hall, 304 W. Main St. The artwork can be viewed during normal business hours. www.projectgemMN.org or (507) 726-6047.

***April 4-May 5** Layl McDill's Mixed Media Exhibit. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Thurs & Fri. 12 Noon-5 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

April 6 Thursday Movie Matinee Series, view "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day", 12 Noon. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

Prairie Lakes is on Facebook!



"LIKE" Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

Look for upcoming events, grant deadlines, photos and other important information to be posted!

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

April 6 Minnesota Storytellers Event: Dessa, a singer, rapper, and writer who fosters a resume bursting with accomplishments, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 day of show. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/>.

April 6-8 & 13-16 “Something Rotten” theater production, April 6-8 & April 13-15 at 7:30 p.m. and April 15-16 at 2 p.m. Adults \$24, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen \$21. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/theatre/ or (507) 389-6661.

***April 9** Meet a Potter at the Open Clay Studio, 2-4 p.m. Come visit with a resident potter as they work. Observe a variety of techniques and approaches. Suggested fee \$5. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

April 11 Virtual book discussion about “Betsy and the Great World” by Maud Hart Lovelace, 6:30 p.m. Open to all. Free for Betsy-Tacy Society members; \$5 for non-members. Pre-registration required for the Zoom link. Hosted by the Betsy-Tacy Society. (507) 345-9777 or www.betsy-tacysociety.org.

April 11 Screening and discussion of a film by the Coen brothers, 6:30 p.m. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society. Held at New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library or (507) 359-8334.

April 11-18 & 19-27 The two Art and Design capstones will be exhibited on April 11-18 and April 19-27. (Receptions, April 13 and 20, 7 p.m.) Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center Gallery, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 11-27 Area High School Show. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. or by appointment. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

April 13 Good Thunder Reading Series featuring Nadine B. Andreas Visiting Writer and fiction writer Karen Russell and Andrea Graduate Assistant and poet Holly Dodge. Workshops, 10-11 a.m., Performing Arts Room 203B, MN State University, Mankato. Craft talk, 3-4 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 253, MN State University, Mankato. Reading, 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 253, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-1354 or <http://gt.mnsu.edu/>.

***April 13** Handel’s “Messiah” Concert by the La Grande Bande performing Baroque era music with period instruments and guest choirs, 7:30 p.m. Tickets in section A \$20, section B \$15, and section C and students \$10, available at www.lagrandebande.org/tickets. Come early, at 6:30 p.m., with your ticket and enjoy a pre-concert talk with Michael Asmus as he discusses the musical selections for the concert. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 995-7086 or www.lagrandebande.org.

April 13 Thursday Movie Matinee Series, view “Inside Out”, 12 Noon. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. www.beclibrary.org or (507) 304-4001.

April 13-16 “That Single Fleeting Moment”, The Gustavus Dance Company in Concert. April 13-15 at 8 p.m. and April 16 at 2 p.m. Held at Rob and Judy Gardner Laboratory Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

***April 13-May 13** Lisa Bergh and Andrew Nordin’s sculpture, installation, and painting Exhibit. (Reception, April 14, 5 p.m.) Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-6 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemandato.com.

***April 14** Concert by B2Wins, performing top 40 hits from the last 40 years, 7 p.m. Tickets: adults \$30, seniors \$20, youth \$10, Veterans/Active Duty \$15, available online at <https://fairmontoperahouse.org/tickets/>. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.org.

***April 14** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Bee Balm Fields performing Indie folk/Americana music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Arts Event Happening in Your Area?

Please submit the event information to us by the 15th of the prior month to be included in an upcoming newsletter!

Email the date, time, location, ticket price, and a brief description of the event to: plrac@hickorytech.net.




Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

April 14 Concert by Steely Ann, a Steely Dan tribute band, 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets \$15 at the door \$20. Held at the Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. www.mankatoplayhouse.com or (507) 508-6539.

April 14 Jazz Mavericks Concert featuring Eric Marienthal, 7:30 p.m. General admission \$9, Students K-12 \$7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, Minnesota State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/>.

14-15 12th Annual Murder Mystery Dinner, starring local cast members. Social Hour at 5:30 p.m., dinner and show at 6:30 p.m. each night. Tickets \$49, advanced purchase required. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

***April 14-16** Mankato Figure Skating Club presents their “Frozen Princess on Ice” show. April 14-15 at 7 p.m. and April 15-16 at 1 p.m. Adults \$8, Senior Citizens and children \$5. Held at All Seasons Arena, 1251 Monks Ave., Mankato.  www.mankatofigureskatingclub.org/.

April 14-16 “Drinking Habits 2: Caught in the Act” theater performance. April 14-15 at 7 p.m. and April 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statestreetnewulm.org.

April 14-16 & 21-22 “The Game of Love and Chance” theater performances, April 14-15 & 21-22 at 7:30 p.m. and April 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$12. Held at Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 14-June 19 Montserrat Alejandra Ulloa Romero’s Mini Gallery of Masterpieces Exhibit. This exhibit will present reinterpretations of 10 works of art by famous artists in minimalist form. Held in the Smallest Museum in Minnesota display case, outside The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

***April 15** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night with local artists performing, hosted by GunnerB Music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 15 Gustavus Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

April 15 Mankato Art Crawl, 12 Noon-4 p.m. Experience local featured artists and their work at each location, along with special offerings like live artists, live music and art classes. Current locations are: 108 Alchemy, Artrageous Mankato, Carnegie Art Center, Sidetracked, The Enchanted Muse, Blue Earth County Historical Society, Bonita, The Mankato Makerspace, Tandem Bagels, Hogbac Acoustics. Tune Town, and Artistry Cove. “Mankato Art Crawl” on Facebook.

April 15 “See, Hear, Play: The Sounds of Success” Family Concert Series, 1 p.m., free, created for children and their caregivers, all ages welcome. Great for families with young children who want to dance and clap along. Held at the New Ulm Public Library, 17 N. Broadway. Sponsored by the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

April 16 The Mankato Symphony Orchestra’s “Inspired Arts” Music On The Hill, Chamber Music Concert, 3 p.m. Premium seating \$25, general seating \$20, students ages 13-17 \$10, 12 and under \$1. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. www.mankatosymphony.com or (507) 625-8880.

April 16 Concert by Heartsong & Friends, performing gospel music, 2 p.m. Tickets: adults \$15, seniors \$10, youth free, Veterans/Active Duty \$7.50, available online at <https://fairmontoperahouse.org/tickets/>. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.org.

April 16 Honor Orchestra Finale Concert, 1 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

April 17 Author visit with Susan Bartlett Foote, 6:30 p.m. She will discuss her award winning book “The Crusade for Forgotten Souls”. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmnmn.gov/363/Library.

April 17-20 Exhibit by Undergraduate Research Symposium Students. (Reception, April 20, 6-8 p.m.) Held at Centennial Student Union Gallery, MN State University, Mankato. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight. (507) 389-6767 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/art/galleries/current-season/>.

***April 18** MN State University, Mankato, Performance Series Concert by Good Morning Bedlam, performing folk music, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/> or (507) 389-5549.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

***April 18** Concert by the Minnesota “Over-60” Band, 1 p.m. Held at the Sibley County Senior Expo at the Berdan Center, United Farmers Cooperative, 705 4th St. E., Winthrop. (507) 317-1974.

April 18 Spring Honors Recital, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 18 Author event with Gretchen Anthony. She will discuss her latest novel, “The Book Haters’ Book Club”, 6:30 p.m. Held at the Montgomery Public Library, 104 Oak Ave. SE. (507) 364-7615.

April 19 Words & Wine, National Poetry Month Reading, 7 p.m. featuring poets Candace Black, Marlin Jenkins, Michael Torres, and Claire Wahmanholm. Held at The Wine Café, 301 N. Riverfront Dr., Mankato. Sponsored by the Blue Earth County Library. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

April 19-22 “The Language Archives” theater production, 7:30 p.m. each day. Adults \$10, seniors over 65 and youth under 16 \$9. Held at Andreas Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/theatre/ or (507) 389-6661.

***April 20** View “Children of a Lesser God”, as part of the ArtHouse Film Series. 7-9:30 p.m., free. Refreshments will be served, and a cash bar will be available. Held at the Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 20 Student Open Mic Night, 6 p.m. The Waseca High School Drama Department is hosting student-led performances to raise funds for the program. Acts are performed by high school students, all ages are welcome to watch. Suggested \$5 donation. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

April 20 Thursday Movie Matinee Series, view “Home”, 12 Noon. Held at Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. www.beclibrary.org or (507) 304-4001.

***April 21** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Amy Manette Band performing jazz music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 21-May 6 Markus Bean’s “Mystic Wild” (Reception, April 21, 7-9 p.m.) Painting Exhibit. Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. www.the410project.com.

***April 22** Church of Cash Concert, a tribute band to Johnny Cash, 7 p.m. Tickets \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door, available at New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, New Ulm Hy-Vee, or online at Eventbrite. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statestreetnewulm.org.

***April 22** Tree Jamboree Earth Day Celebration featuring the Teddy Bear Band, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Join in on some arts and crafts activities, such as upcycled bookmarks, leaf art, tree-cookie decorating, and much more. Held at the Ney Nature Center, 28238 Nature Center Lane, Henderson. (507) 357-8580 or www.neycenter.org.

April 22 The Mankato Symphony Orchestra’s concert, “Towering Triumph”, 7 p.m., featuring Joan Tower’s “Fanfares for the Uncommon Woman”. Adults \$20, students ages 13-17 \$10, 12 and under \$1. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

April 22 Jazz Groups and Contemporary Singers Concert, 2 p.m. General admission \$9, Students K-12 \$7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, Minnesota State University, Mankato. <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/> or (507) 389-5549.

April 22 Wind Symphony Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Martin Luther College Auditorium, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

***April 23** Angie Anderson will be performing original music with “The Cousins” and band members, 12 Noon-2 p.m. Held at the Coffee Hag, 329 N. Riverfront Dr., Mankato. (507) 354-4836. Angie received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in FY 2023 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

***April 23** “The Many Roads Home” Spring Concert by Musicorum, 3 p.m. Held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 720 S. 2nd St., Mankato. Tickets will be available at the door, general admission \$15, students \$5. www.musicorum-mn.org or (507) 351-2046.



***April 23** The Mankato Children’s Chorus will present their Spring Concert “Lead with Love” at 2 p.m. Adults \$12, seniors and students \$10, under 5 \$5. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 774-0597 or www.mankatochildrenschorus.org.

April 23 MN State University, Mankato Spring Choral Concert, 3 p.m. General admission \$9, Students K-12 \$7. Held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 632 S. Broad Street, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/>.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

April 23 Brassworks! Concert, 3:30 p.m., featuring various brass ensembles. Held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

April 24-25 The “Junie B.’s Essential Survival Guide to School” show. April 24-25 at 10 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. and April 24 at 7 p.m. Tickets: adults \$25, seniors \$20, youth \$5, Veterans/Active Duty \$12.50, available online at <https://fairmontoperahouse.org/tickets/>. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.org.

April 24-May 4 Senior Exhibition 2. (Reception, April 24, 7-9 p.m.) Held at Conkling Gallery, Dept. of Art, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/art/galleries/current-season/>.

April 24-May 5 Exhibit by Museum Studies Students. Held at Centennial Student Union Gallery, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight. (507) 389-6767 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/art/galleries/current-season/>.

April 24-May 17 The Juniors Studio Art Majors Exhibition. (Reception, April 24, 4:30-6:30 p.m.) Held at the Schaefer Gallery, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free and open to the public. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 1-5 p.m. (507) 933-7200 or <https://gustavus.edu/art/schaefer.php>.

April 25 Concert Band and Full Orchestra Finale Concert, 7:30 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 26 Words & Wine, National Poetry Month Reading, 7 p.m. featuring poets Michael Bazzett, Su Hwang, Michael Kleber-Diggs, and Matt Rasmussen. Held at The Wine Café, 301 N. Riverfront Dr., Mankato. Sponsored by the Blue Earth County Library. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

April 27 Spring Wind Ensemble Concert, 7:30 p.m. General admission \$9, Students K-12 \$7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/> or (507) 389-5549.

April 27 Thursday Movie Matinee Series, view “Beauty and the Beast”, 12 Noon. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

April 27 Virtual author event with William Kent Krueger. He will discuss his latest book in the Cork O’Connor series “Fox Creek” and his numerous other works, 7 p.m. Contact the library to register and to receive the link. Sponsored by the Blue Earth County Library. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

April 27-29 Minnesota State University Spring Dance Concert. April 27-28 at 7:30 p.m. and April 29 at 2 p.m. Adults \$10, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen \$9. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnsu.edu/theatre/.

April 27-May 14 Mankato Playhouse presents dinner theatre performances of “Nunsense”. Preview Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays dinner seating at 5:30 p.m., show at 7 p.m. Sundays lunch seating at 12:30 p.m., show at 2 p.m. Adults \$23, students \$21, tickets available at www.mankatoplayhouse.com. Show Only tickets also available. Recommended for all ages. Held at the Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. (507) 508-6539 or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.

***April 28** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Machinery Hill performing eclectic music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

April 28 Concert by Axiom Brass, performing live multimedia performances featuring classical music and new works, 7 p.m. Tickets: adults \$20, seniors \$15, youth \$10, Veterans/Active Duty \$10, available online at <https://fairmontoperahouse.org/tickets/>. Held at Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.org.

April 29 Concert by Jivin’ Ivan & The Kings of Swing, 7 p.m. Adults \$10, seniors and students \$5. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

April 29 The Mankato Riverblender’s annual spring show, “Music Legends” including the St. Croix Crossing Quartet, 1 p.m. Tickets \$15, students \$5, available online at www.singmankato.com and at Cub Foods and Hilltop HyVee in Mankato and Nutter Clothing in St. Peter. Held at Hosanna Lutheran Church, 105 Hosanna Dr, Mankato. www.singmankato.com or (507) 420-5847.

April 29 Children’s Theatre Performance of “Stone Soup”, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., held at Martin Luther College Auditorium, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

April 30 Musical Revue with Dr. Stephanie Thorpe, 3 p.m. General admission \$9, Students K-12 \$7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/> or (507) 389-5549.

April 30 Gustavus Choir Spring Concert, 1:30 p.m. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

April 30 Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra and Campus Band Spring Concert, 5:30 p.m. Held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

ShopART Midwest is a non-commission online gallery that connects Midwest artists to buyers. This is a service by Twin Rivers Council for the Arts for anyone to have access to handmade art. Search their ShopART gallery at: www.shopartmidwest.com.

Area Wineries have live musical entertainment on Friday and Saturday evenings. Please contact them for times, musicians.

Chankaska Creek Ranch and Winery, 1179 E. Pearl St., Kasota. www.chankaskawines.com or (507) 931-0089.

Indian Island Winery, 18018 631st Ave., Janesville. www.indianislandwinery.com or (507) 234-6222.

Morgan Creek Vineyards, 23707 478th Ave., New Ulm. (507) 947-3547 or www.morgancreekvineyards.com.

Next Chapter Winery, 16945 320th St., New Prague. (612) 756-3012 or www.nextchapterwinery.com.

Youth Opportunities

***April 1** Kidcasso, Open Art Studio, children of all ages, \$5, 9-11 a.m. An open art studio experience for creative learners from high chair to high-school to experience, explore, and create a variety of open ended arts and crafts using a variety of fun supplies. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is appreciated, however walk-ins welcome. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

April 4 Little Rembrandts Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-3, \$10. Students will use elements of art and principles of design to complete a project to take home. This month will be “Kandinsky Inspired Cityscapes”. Registration is required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

April 4 Club Picasso Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades 4-12, \$10. Students will use elements of art and principles of design to complete a project to take home. This month will be “profiles”. Registration required online at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

April 7 Design a Skateboard Deck, with Skateboard Artist Mark Rivard. Grades 7-12, 2-4 p.m. Held at the Martin County Library, 110 N. Park St., Fairmont. (507) 238-4207 or www.martincountylibrary.org.

April 11 Craft Club, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-12, \$20. Come in and have a fun time creating an assortment of crafts. This month will be collage. Registration is required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets second Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.



***April 15** Children's Learn to Paint Class. 10 a.m.-12 Noon. Grades Kindergarten+, \$25. Children will be taught step-by-step painting techniques while also being given the freedom to make the artwork their own. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

***April 19** heART Therapy. 6-8 p.m., free. A guided class for middle school students experiencing grief and loss to build connections and explore healing through artistic expression. No arts experience necessary. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.org or (507) 359-9222.

***April 23** Kids Spring Art Class, \$5, Pre-K-1st grade at 9 a.m., Grades 2-3 at 10 a.m., and grades 4+ at 11 a.m. Registration required. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

***April 30-May 1** Auditions for the musical theater performances of “Anything Goes Youth Edition”, 6 p.m. each night, grades 6-12. Please bring sheet music for a song you have already learned. Mankato Playhouse will provide a pianist at auditions to accompany you. Performances will be held June 16-25 at the Mankato Playhouse. Contact Davori Productions for more information, (507) 317-1245, info@davoriproductions.com, or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.



(Opportunities continued on page 16)

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

Adult Opportunities

***April 1** Adult Linoleum Block Carving & Spring Card Printing Class. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$35. Learn how to transfer artwork to the block, carve, and print it. You will be able to print your own cards or prints. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.org or (507) 359-9222.

April 1 & 5 Open Auditions for the upcoming theater production of "Much Ado About Nothing". April 1 at 9 a.m. and April 5 at 6:30 p.m. Nothing needs to be prepared in advance. Many roles available for men and women, ages 18 and older. Performances will be held June 9-11. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. www.statestreetnewulm.org or (507) 359-9990.

April 2 Virtual Drop-In Writers Lounge. 2-4 p.m. This is a chance to work quietly while enjoying the fellowship of other writers. We will also provide breakout rooms for those who hope to chat with and bounce ideas off other writers. Pre-registration recommended. Hosted by the Betsy-Tacy Society. www.betsy-tacysociety.org or (507) 345-9777.

April 3 Memoir Writing Group. Bring your own writing or a topic to write about and be a part of a group to keep you inspired and sharing your stories, 10-11:30 a.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library or (507) 359-8334.

***April 3-May 25** Beginning Pottery Class with instructor AJ Aburto. Mondays and Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. Learn the fundamentals of working with clay to create functional forms. No experience necessary. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

***April 5** heART Therapy. 6-8 p.m., free. A guided class for adults experiencing grief and loss to build connections and explore healing through artistic expression. No arts experience necessary. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org or .

April 5 & 19 Needlework Group, self-directed time to work on projects including quilting, embroidery, crochet, knitting, etc. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Bring your own supplies. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library or (507) 359-8334.

April 5-26 Art Group, self-directed time for artists of all levels and abilities to join this adults-only group. Each artist should bring his/her own materials and ideas. All materials must be non-odorous. 2-5:30 p.m., meets every Wednesday. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library.

***April 5-26** Stitch Witchery: A Weekly Drop-In Sewing Circle. Every Wednesday, 5-7 p.m. Join seamstress Bianca Wilson and sewing enthusiast Ann Rosenquist Fee for this low-key, high-encouragement community studio experience. Bring your sewing projects in progress, or just the spark of an idea and some fabric. We'll provide machines, thread, shears, pins, irons, cutting/planning space, scrap fabric, and inspiration as needed. Must be 21+. No registration required; free, donations encouraged. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

April 10 Poetry Group, each participant is encouraged to read aloud two or three poems, of their own or by others, and discuss them. 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

April 14 Attention Music Teachers: The Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association will host their business meeting with refreshments and at 9 a.m. Program runs 9:30-11 a.m. Annual membership \$30, guests can attend a meeting free of charge. This month is an open forum, come with your teaching questions. Held at Hilltop United Methodist Church, 108 S. Manitou Dr., Mankato. (507) 514-3970 or www.mvmta.com.

April 15 The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night for local musicians, hosted by GunnerB Music, 7-9 p.m., held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

***April 15** Adult Wood Block Carving & Printing Class. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$65. Learn to transfer a design and carve an image on a 6"×8" piece of Shina plywood. Printing will be done on our new Takach press. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

***April 19** Open Knitting. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Bring your projects, make progress, and make new connections with fellow knitters. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

April 19 or 20 Adult Craft Night, 6 p.m., choose a night. Create with a wood mosaic kit from Bailey Builds. Registration required. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Avenue. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

April 20 Line Drawing Workshop, 6-7 p.m. Get started with drawing basic shapes and understanding composition.. Held at the Le Sueur Public Library, 118 Ferry St. (507) 665-2662.

***April 22-23 Creating a Barn Quilt Class**, April 22 at 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and April 23 at 1-5 p.m. Participants will choose a quilt pattern and learn how to enlarge their chosen pattern on a primed piece of 2' x 2' board, using paint colors of their choice. \$75, materials included. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.org or (507) 359-9222.

***April 25 Macrame Class**, 6:30 p.m. Registration required. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

April 26 Writers Group, 6:30 p.m. Share your work with others and get feedback, or just come for the writing prompts and inspiration. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

Art for All Open Studio. The space has art supplies for the public to use. Wed., Thurs, and Fri. 2-7 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Held at Sidetracked, 420 Park Lane, Mankato. sidetrackedmankato@gmail.com.

Adaptive Recreational Services offers a monthly "Painting with Rhonda Class" for teens and adults with disabilities, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Classes are free; however registration is required. There will be some canvases available for painting at home. For more information contact Adaptive Recreational Services Coordinator Karrie Borchert, (507) 217-0383, arsnu@newulmtel.net, or www.nuars.org.

Mankato Makers Space is offering art classes in ceramics, leather, glass work, metal sculpture, woodworking and more. Visit their website to view the list of classes and the restrictions for each class. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

The Grand Center for Arts and Culture in New Ulm has an opportunity for artists, historians, and makers in all disciplines to curate a bi-monthly exhibit in "The Smallest Museum in Minnesota". The museum cabinet is 31.75" wide, 32.75" high and 7.5" deep. The museum is located outside the front entrance at 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. For more information visit www.thegrandnewulm.com/smallest-museum-in-mn.

Grant Opportunities

April 17 Paint the Town Grant Deadline. Free paint and coating products for a community mural, community welcome sign, or historic structure projects. This grant opportunity is available to small communities with a population under 10,000. The grant applications and guidelines are available at <https://smifoundation.org/grants/for-grant-seekers/paint-the-town-grants-2/>. Contact Jennifer at the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation for more information, jenniferh@smifoudation.org or (507) 214-7040.

April 21 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Individuals Application Deadline. This program is meant to provide support to help Minnesota artists and culture bearers develop or sustain their creative practices and meaningfully engage with Minnesotans. Grant range: \$2,000-\$10,000. Application deadline is April 21 at 4:30 p.m. A second deadline for this program, will be

July 28, 2023. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or CreativeIndividuals@arts.state.mn.us. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: www.arts.state.mn.us.

May 19 Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Education Application Deadline. This program is meant to help Minnesotans develop personal relationships with an art form(s) by supporting learning experiences for individuals of all ages and abilities. Project grant funds may be used for age-appropriate classes, workshops, camps, after-school programs, online education programs, community arts education, school residences or partnerships, etc. Grant range: \$5,000-\$35,000. Application deadline: May 19 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or msab@arts.state.mn.us. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: www.arts.state.mn.us.

Prairie Lakes Mission and Value Statements

Mission Statement: The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council serves the artistic communities of the 9-county area of southcentral MN by supporting the creation and presentation of diverse art forms, fostering equitable access to arts opportunities, and integrating arts and culture to enhance quality of life in our communities.

We value: The Arts, Artistic Merit, Creativity, Community, Accessibility, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

Value Statements:

The Arts: We value all forms of artistic expression, and resist the notion that there is but one universal definition of art or one best type of art. Instead, we embrace all artistic disciplines, genres, and subgenres, and encourage work that uses imagination, emotion, and craft to communicate.

Artistic Merit: We value artistic merit that promotes growth and development of creative knowledge, skills and understanding.

Creativity: We value the dedicated pursuit of and engagement with the arts. Creative expression contributes to the health of individuals and communities alike.

Community: We value art that reflects a rich and expansive range of cultures, traditions, experiences, and perspectives. The art created by and supported by the community deepens our understanding of ourselves and each other.

Accessibility: We value arts programming and arts education that is available to everyone.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion: We value an equitable, diverse, and inclusive community. We are committed to countering systemic inequities that exclude individuals and communities from access to the arts based on race, gender, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, class, age, and geography.

Have you visited www.plrac.org lately?

Prairie Lakes has great information to share that is just a click away!

Find the latest grant applications and guidelines, workshop videos, monthly newsletters and arts calendar, and more!



Prairie Lakes FY 2022 Grants Awarded

(July 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022)

Total Awarded: \$596,995

\$422,705 - Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants to 50 arts organizations & community groups

\$100,490 – State General funds (37 grants)
Small Arts Project & School Grants to date

\$27,300 - 108 Youth Scholarships to Students in grades 3-12

\$46,500 – Artist Development Grant (31 grants)
Grant amount is \$1,500, with funds from the McKnight Foundation.

Prairie Lakes receives funding from the Minnesota Legislature through the Legacy Amendment from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, State General funds, and the McKnight Foundation.



MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

Non-profit Art Centers

Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 N. First St. Various events and monthly exhibits. Gallery hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Monthly exhibits, an extensive variety of children, youth, and adult art classes and clay classes are offered at www.artscentersp.org/classes. Register online for classes at www.stpetercommunityedonline.com or www.artscentersp.org/classes/. Gallery hours: Tues. & Wed. 1-6 p.m., Thurs. 1-8 p.m., Fri. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. info@artscentersp.org, (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Carnegie Art Center, 120 South Broad Street, Mankato. Artist studios, monthly exhibits and a unique Gift Shop featuring original art work by local artists. Wheelchair accessible. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. & Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 625-2730, www.thecarnegiemandato.com, or artctr@hickorytech.net.

Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave., Mankato. They offer art classes in ceramics, leather, glass work, metal sculpture, woodworking and more. Visit their website to view the list of classes offered. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues., Wed., & Fri. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and evenings & weekends by appointment. Monthly art exhibitions, artist receptions, workshops, various events for all ages and ballroom dances. www.redrockcenter.org, (507) 235-9262, or redrockcenter@frontiernet.net.

The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Monthly exhibits. Hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. www.the410project.com or the410project@hotmail.com.

The Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Music will be promoted via our website and social media. Gallery shows held monthly, with virtual slideshows online. Gallery and gift shop hours: Tues.-Fri. 12 Noon-5 p.m., office hours Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Artist studios available for rent on third floor. www.thegrandnewulm.com, (507) 359-9222, or laurel.stinson@thegrandnewulm.org.

Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 120 South Broad Street, Mankato. Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9 a.m.-5 p.m. officemanager@TwinRiversarts.org, (507) 508-7165 or www.twinriversarts.org.

Waseca Art Center, 200 N. State Street. Monthly exhibits and educational programs. Hours: Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Thurs & Fri. 12 Noon-5 p.m. (507) 835-1701, www.wasecaartcenter.org, or info@wasecaartcenter.org.

College Galleries

Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. Art exhibits are held at Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. www.blc.edu/art-exhibits.

Conkling Art Gallery, 139 Nelson Hall, MN State University, Mankato. Monthly exhibits. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept.

Hillstrom Museum of Art, 800 W. College Ave., Gustavus Adolphus, College, St. Peter. Events are free and open to the public. Hours: weekdays 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and weekends 1-5 p.m. (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom/.

South Central College Lookout Gallery, Room C167, 1920 Lee Blvd., North Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. To inquire about displaying artwork, email: michelle.johnson@southcentral.edu.

Student Union Gallery, lower level of the Centennial Student Union, MN State University, Mankato. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight.

Community Theaters

Curtain Call Theatre. Performances are held in different LeSueur County locations. www.curtaincalltheatre.net or (507) 744-8497.

Mankato Playhouse. 12 Civic Center Plaza Ste 1700, Mankato. www.mankatoplayhouse.com, (507) 317-1245 or (507) 338-5800.

Merely Players Community Theatre. Performances at Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. info@merelyplayersmn.org, www.merelyplayers.com or (507) 388-5483.

Springfield Community Theatre. Performances are held at the Springfield High School, 12 Burns Ave. (507) 723-6315, go to "Springfield Community Theatre, Springfield, MN" on Facebook.

State Street Theater Company. Performances at their building, 1 N. State Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9990, info@statestreetnewulm.org, www.statestreetnewulm.org.

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

105 22nd Ave. NE, Suite A, Waseca, MN 56093-2612
(507) 833-8721 or (800) 298-1254
plrac@hickorytech.net or www.plrac.org



WORK OF ART: BUSINESS SKILLS FOR ARTISTS

Springboard for the Arts Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists is a professional development curriculum designed to teach business skills to artists in all disciplines: visual, performing and literary arts. Artists can take the whole series, customized combinations, or individual workshops that best suit their needs, and the curriculum is available for people interested in leading the workshops and offering professional development resources.

Springboard offers The Work of Art Toolkit; available for Free as a digital download.



Read a brief description of all Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists topics and find upcoming Work of Art workshops, panels, classes or events on their website:
<https://springboardforthearts.org/professional-growth/work-of-art-program/>

Inside the April Newsletter

- Page 1-2 **Arts Action Week**
- Page 3-5 **Arts & Cultural Heritage Grantees**
- Page 6 **Small Arts and School Grantees**
- Page 7 **Grant Programs**
- Page 8 **Grant Deadlines**
- Page 9 **Board Member Openings**
- Page 9 **Current Board Members**
- Page 10-17 **Arts Events and Opportunities**
- Page 17 **Grant Opportunities**
- Page 18 **Prairie Lakes Mission and Values**
- Page 18 **FY 2022 Grants Awarded**
- Page 19 **Non-Profit Art Centers, Galleries, and Theaters**